

## Remembering...

Remembrance Day services were held this past weekend in Acton, Georgetown and Glen Williams. (Right) A Mountie at the Georgetown service sports a poppy on her hat. (Bottom left) Frank Koen of Acton proudly takes part in the Acton ceremony under grey skies. (Bottom right) Cayleigh Graham, 2, shows her support for the veterans during the Glen Williams parade.



Right photo Ted Brown  
Bottom photos  
Yves Desjardins



## D-Day invasion at Normandy overshadowed Italian campaign

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those (troops) who had taken part in the Sicilian and Italian campaigns were almost ignored. D-Day was the big story, not us. We'd spent more than a year fighting in horrible conditions, and were later called the 'D-Day Dodgers' because we weren't taking part in the landings at Normandy. It really hurt to be called that— we'd gone through hell to get there."

Rollinson's experiences didn't stop there, as his outfit was ordered to take Lake Trasimeno, the same place Hannibal had fought the Roman army with his elephants in 217 BC.

This time however, the Germans were chased out as the Canadians made a dash to free the area.

On to Florence, where the Germans had looted the city before the Canadians arrived, and as winter set in, the tracks on the tanks were frozen into the ground as Rollinson's outfit waited until February to get the tanks moving again.

On to Marseilles, France, then on a five-day convoy to Mouscron, Belgium, as Rollinson's tour was drawing him closer to the end of the war.

March 21, five days later, attached to the 49th British Division, the squadron was in Holland, attacked to advance to Arnhem, and by May 8, 1945, they were in Wageningen, as the Germans surrendered.

I was later sent to Meerkerk

(Holland) to help administrate the distribution of food and supplies for the local residents," said Rollinson, "I was there from July to September 1945 in the north of Holland."

September 15, 1945 is a key date in Ed Rollinson's life— it's the day he came home, after serving four years and five months overseas.

Discharged October 31, 1945, it had been a long adventure.

All that time, Rollinson had been operating his 'office on wheels', always keeping on top of the intelligence information as well as being responsible for recording the regiment's war diaries— often under enemy fire and in danger.

But his first concern was always the troops— his friends and comrades.

"I always assessed the intelligence with the hopes of saving our troops at the expense of the enemy," said Rollinson. "I like to think I was successful. If I saved a few of them through my work, I think I did okay."

As it turned out, the Second World War wasn't the end of Rollinson's service to his country. By the time the Korean campaign came along in the 1950s, he'd been working as a civil servant, still looking after the interests of his comrades in his position at Veterans' Affairs and later at Sunnybrook Hospital.

And regarding Korea, as Rollinson so aptly states, "That's another story to be told.

—By Ted Brown, staff writer

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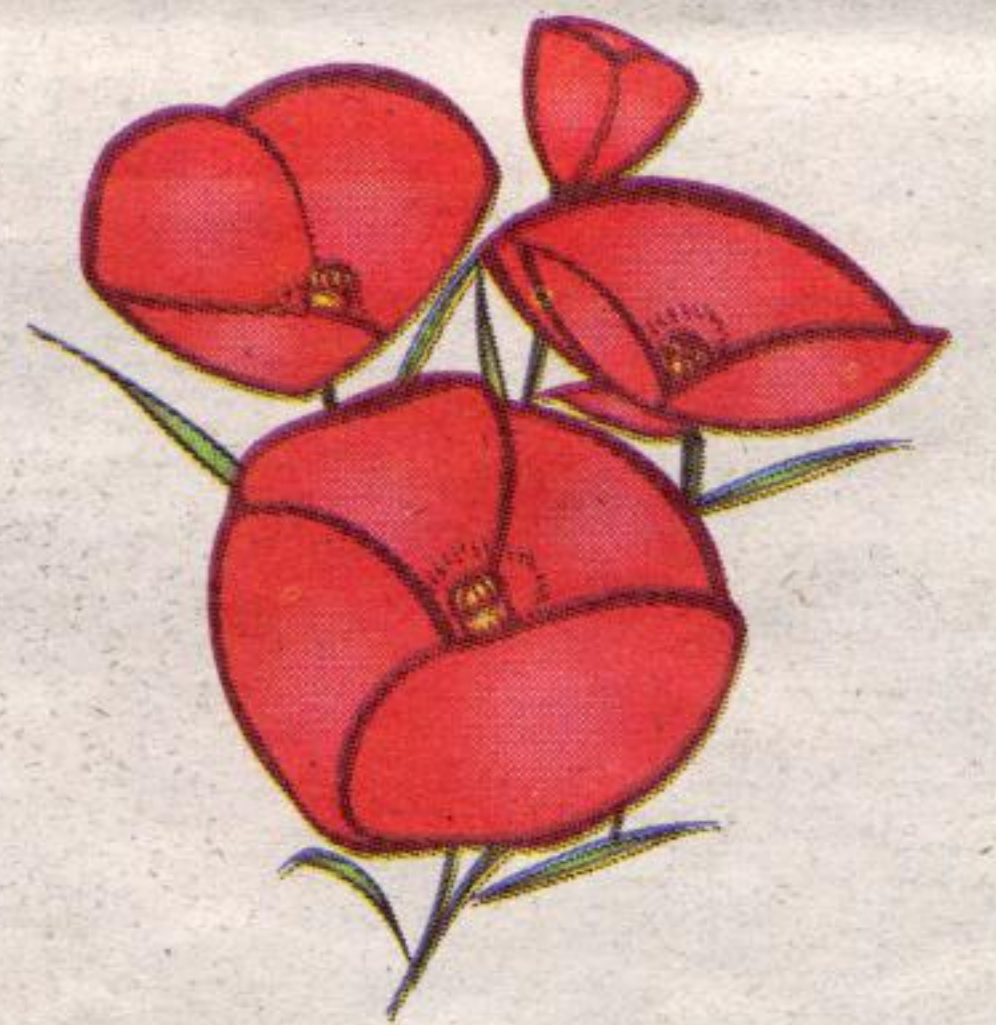
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**REMEMBRANCE DAY**  
**NOVEMBER 11**